

advantageously, a user would be able to edit such clip-art pictures in the collection, or use existing clip-art pictures as the basis for new clip-art pictures that the user would create and store in the collection, and in addition, create clip-art pictures from scratch. Further, and even more ideally, a group of users in wireless communication with each other would be able to create a clip-art picture collectively, with any user in the group able to help draw the clip-art picture while all the others in the group observe the drawing.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, the present invention provides a wireless terminal, and corresponding method for use by a wireless terminal, for communicating pictures via a wireless communication system, the wireless terminal including: a clip-art picture manager, for managing clip-art pictures including maintaining the clip-art pictures in galleries, each gallery including a plurality of clip-art pictures and each gallery of a size suitable for communication as a single wireless message, and for providing at least one clip-art picture from at least one of the galleries; a gallery folder, for storing the galleries of clip-art pictures in a memory device of the wireless terminal; a transceiver, for receiving and sending a message including at least one clip-art picture; a display screen for displaying clip-art pictures; and keys including keys of a numeric keypad as well as soft keys.

In a further aspect of the invention, the clip-art picture manager in turn includes: a gallery selector, for enabling a user to view galleries in a gallery folder, to select a gallery from the gallery folder, and to save a gallery in the gallery folder; a clip-art picture editor, for enabling a user to edit a

clip-art picture in a gallery, and to create a new clip-art picture to be included in a gallery; and a gallery communicator, for selecting a gallery from the galleries in the gallery folder via the gallery selector, and for providing the selected gallery in a format suitable for transmission by the transceiver.

In another further aspect, the invention also includes a graphic message handler, for enabling a user to create a text message with at least one clip-art picture and including information indicating where in the text the clip-art picture is intended to be located, thereby providing an in-line graphics message.

In yet another further aspect of the invention, the transceiver includes an automatic recognition module, for determining whether or not a received message includes a clip-art picture. In some applications according to this aspect of the invention, the automatic recognition module also distinguishes between an in-line graphics message and a message consisting of a gallery of clip-art.

Further, in some applications in which a picture editor is provided, the picture editor of the wireless terminal communicates with a picture editor of another wireless terminal so as to allow the user of the other wireless terminal to participate in drawing a clip-art picture being created on the wireless terminal, thereby allowing group drawing of clip-art pictures.

Also further, in some applications in which a picture editor is provided, the picture editor provides an interface in which a user uses keys of the numeric keypad of the wireless terminal to draw or edit a clip-art picture, the interface providing a virtual pen in that the numeric keys of the keypad move a cursor about on the display screen of the wireless

terminal, and, based on a pen state a user is able indicate to the picture editor interface, in moving the cursor from one point on the display screen to another, either a solid line results, a dashed line, a white line, or no line at all.

5 Still also further, in some applications in which a picture editor is provided, the picture editor provides an interface through which a user is able to add features to an existing clip-art picture, invert an existing clip-art picture, or mirror an existing clip-art picture.

10 From another perspective, the invention is a wireless terminal (and a corresponding method of operation of a wireless terminal) including a picture editor as generally described above but not restricted in its use to editing (including creating) clip-art pictures maintained in a gallery, and instead  
15 of use in editing stand-alone pictures, and including some or all of the following capabilities (generally indicated above): allowing group editing; allowing mirroring a picture, inverting a picture, or adding a pre-drawn object to a picture (such as adding sunglasses to a smiley face); and allowing a user to  
20 indicate drawing modes (pen on or pen off) and pen states (black, white or dotted).

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

25 The above and other objects, features and advantages of the invention will become apparent from a consideration of the subsequent detailed description presented in connection with accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a block diagram of the components of a mobile phone needed to practice the present invention;